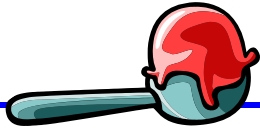


THE COUNTY SCOOP



Gallatin County

January 1, 2010

FAREWELL TO ERIC BRYSON

Inside this issue:

As most of you know by now, Eric Bryson, Director of Court Services and Treatment Court Coordinator, will leave his employment with Gallatin County to become the Chief Administrative Officer for Lewis and Clark County on January 8th. While Eric's leadership, enthusiasm and dedication will be sorely missed by Gallatin County, we continue to be highly supportive of him as he makes this major career move. An unfaltering advocate and innovator for Gallatin County's criminal justice system since the early 2000's, Eric has the personality, drive and management skills to succeed in his new role with Lewis and Clark County. Eric is one of Gallatin County's very best and he is returning to his roots, having grown up in Helena.

Eric graduated in political science from Montana State University and also completed a Master's in Public Administration at that institution. Indeed, for a period of time, Eric served as an adjunct faculty member in the Political Science Department at MSU. He also served on the Bozeman School Board prior to his election to the Bozeman City Commission. This record of service, coupled with his very full-time position with Gallatin County, is indicative of Eric's motivational level and work ethic.

In recognition of the growing need for diversionary programs within our criminal justice system, the Court Services Department was created from several smaller units in 2002. Court Services continues to be the only county department of its kind in Montana. Eric was instrumental in the process of integrating these component parts into a cohesive operation that provides a variety of services that allow for the application of discretionary authority in a manner that benefits clients and the public while relieving congestion within the system in a cost effective manner. One of Eric's greatest accomplishments is his ability to provide an increasingly broader array of services while always staying within budget and identifying ways to conserve taxpayer dollars as well as obtaining external funding.

Eric has been able to balance dual responsibilities by fulfilling the responsibilities of Treatment Court Coordinator, a State-funded position, during his tenure as a County department head. The appointment of the Treatment Court Coordinator is made by District Judge Mike Salvagni and Eric has done a masterful job of meeting the judge's high standards.

Court Services is recognized as one of the country's leading programs of its kind and Eric as well as other staff members has received a variety of awards as well as national accreditation which acknowledges the quality of their program. The program serves as a prototype for excellence in Montana and staff members have been called upon to provide training and consultation to other programs on many occasions. According to Eric, the thing he is most proud of is the ability of the program to "initiate new programs, implement new policies and negotiate new ways of doing things in a traditionally adversarial environment." This level of cooperation is difficult to achieve among groups of highly charged people that enter the process intent on achieving very different outcomes. Impressively, Eric has been able to garner the respect of all.

Eric singles out the relationships he has developed here in Gallatin County as what he will miss the most. He remarks that the thing will miss the least is "For the first time in 10 years his new job won't require him to take someone else's urine or saliva." Eric is married to Carrie and is the father of a beautiful daughter named Emma Rose.

THANK YOU, Eric, for all you've done for Gallatin County and those that you've served through Court Services. We will truly miss you!

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MONTHLY MUSING

5....4....3....2....1....Happy New Decade!

It's January 2010 and time has flown by, I say. I remember ringing in the year 2000 and the fear everyone had over Y2K—the world was going to come to screeching halt! In 2001, the country was attacked by terrorists, and Americans pulled together like they hadn't in over 60 years. 2002 was full of alerts and a population scared of more attacks, but we got American Idol to help with that. The following year we went into Iraq and the year after that re-elected a president and said goodbye to Reagan. By 2005, halfway through the decade, Hurricane Katrina struck and the country rallied around New Orleans. 2006 was the year of Pluto getting kicked off the (cool kid) planet list and we said goodbye to Ford. In 2007 the Sopranos said g'bye and 2008 was the year of the BIG election, as well as Phelps winning a few gold medals at the Olympics. This year a plane crash-landed in the Hudson River, swine flu was everywhere, another Kennedy brother passed as did a sister, and so did Michael Jackson.

A lot has happened [in the last 10 years](#) and the world has changed, for the good in some ways and the bad in others (I'm still waiting impatiently for the flying cars I'm supposed to have by now according to movies from the 80's & early 90's.) As we look toward a new year, and a new decade (with flying cars?), there is always hope for the future. May everyone's New Year be safe, happy, and laughter-filled (sorry Pluto).



JANUARY BLUE JEAN DAYS

8TH—\$2 for the Bozeman Daily Chronicle Blue Jean Friday

**13th—\$2 County Casual in Recognition of
Cervical Cancer Awareness Month**

20th—\$2 County Casual for the Friends of Treatment Court

25th—\$2 County Casual for Employee of the Month Recognition

29th—\$2 County Casual in Recognition of Cervical Cancer Awareness Month



The Gallatin County Commissioners are pleased to Introduce Michael Watson as “Employee of the Month” in December

Mike first began working for Gallatin County in 1997 through a temp agency. He provided general labor for miscellaneous small projects, the Courthouse phase remodel, etc on days off from his full-time position as a retail store manager. In August of 2001 he left the retail business and Gallatin County to pursue Florida beaches and a career which more closely coincided with his college education. After several months of beautiful sun and grueling humidity and traffic he was asked to come back to Bozeman in July of 2002 as a temporary full-time maintenance worker and returned to a community he truly missed—the people, mountains, a big blue open sky—a quality of life offered in few other places. “A funny thing about Montana—you can look at a mountain range and know right where you are. Most importantly you know its home.” In April of 2003 he became a full-time maintenance worker II, and, now perform the duties of a Facilities’ lead. When asked what he likes most about his job Mike explained that simply stated—the people. His job requires him to serve a community that he loves living in and being a part of. “My favorite America merchant, one of the greatest, believed that ‘in serving one another we elevate the human condition.’ He also believed that we should offer our very best. Gallatin County allows me to offer my best, to serve others, and to make a difference.” Mike stated that his favorite thing about working for Gallatin County is the diversity. “In my position, one minute you are working on security hardware at the Detention Center, and then, the next, the back-up generator at the 911 Center. Moreover, the work you do directly helps others – that’s a great feeling.” Before coming to Gallatin County Mike graduated from Billings Skyview High School in 1991 and then began a long career in retail sales at the first KG Men’s store. In the fall he transferred to Bozeman’s store, and, an engineering scholarship among others brought him to Montana State University. While attending MSU he changed majors to Biomedical Science and left KG Men’s Store to open The Buckle as a team leader and associate. After college graduation he managed Sylvester’s Bargain Emporium, a designer outlet store in Downtown Bozeman and completed Emergency Medical Technician training and certification. In his free time Mike gets together with family and friends, spends countless hours in the gym, travels when he’s able, enjoys water skiing and jet skiing and plays tennis weather permitting. Mike added the following to his survey that we’d like to share with you: “Ralph Waldo Emerson once wrote, ‘What lies behind us and what lies before us are tiny in comparison to what lies within us.’” Also: “I just want to say thank you to the one who nominated me and for this wonderful recognition. I am so appreciative. I also wish to thank my hard-working co-workers in the Facilities/Operations Department who have supported me, who have fought to keep up with the County’s growth over the years, and simply to make day to day operations “work.” As I have in past jobs and this one, I will continue to give my fullest, my best. I truly thank this organization, this community, for this great opportunity.” **THANK YOU MIKE FOR THE GREAT JOB!**

And from Mike’s co-workers:

Mike is here any hour of the day or night for emergencies.
Mike has made a lot of improvements to systems such as the lighting system in order to save energy.
Mike doesn’t complain about the extra hours and work that he puts in and is a joy to work with.

Way to go Mike! Keep up the excellent work and thank you for all you contribute to Gallatin County!

Keep those nominations coming in! It is always nice to hear the wonderful things co-workers say about each other; it makes it very difficult for to choose just one each month!



CLASSIFIED ADS

1998 Ford Windstar minivan. Approximately 160,000 miles, newer auto o/d transmission, good tires. 3.8 liter V6, runs good, but has cosmetic issues. Green exterior and tan interior. Interior is in good condition. 3 row seating, rear ac/heat. If could use front struts and alignment, but not critical. \$500 OBO. Call Blair @ 586-2233

1985 Ford F250 Extended Cab Long Box. 460, auto, 4wd. Needs fuel selector switch and/or electric fuel pumps. Otherwise runs and drives well. A/C (don't know if it works—but everything is there) pw, pdl, ps, pb. Interior is in good shape, body is ok for the age. Some rust over wheels in bed. \$500 OBO. Call Blair @ 586-2233

Achieve your New Year's Fitness Goal at Home! For Sale: Brand new Kurt Kinetic magnetic bike trainer (aka: wind trainer), still in the box. Paid \$300. Asking \$150. Call Ann at x3111 or 579-8074.

FOR RENT: 4 BR/2BA, Pet's negotiable. N/S 5 minutes from town Mature yard, private large deck. \$1,000 mo. + utilities. Call Dan @ 539-7539

FOR RENT: Rooms for Rent. 2 small bedroom & 1 bathroom shared in one home with single female. Female preferred; kids ok. No smoking. Off Huffine on Teakwood. \$410/month includes water and garbage. Call 539-2603.

FREE TO GOOD HOME: Lovable, male, long-haired, black cat (7 or 8 years old)—needs to be in home without children or other pets if possible. Call Morgan at 924-6082 to give him a good home.

Human Resources Corner

~If you claimed Exempt, you must complete a new W4 by February 28, 2010.

~If you need to make any adjustments in your marital status, total number of allowances you are claiming, additional deduction amounts or address changes, you will need to complete a new W4.

~Also please be sure review your latest pay check or pay stub to make sure we have your current address on file for your 2009 W2. Please report any changes by January 8th!

The Human Resource Office wishes you a
SAFE and





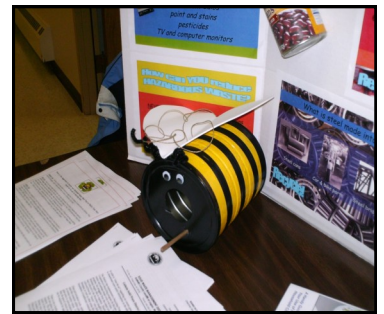
Manhattan School

Hello My name is Makayla. I have some cool news! In our class we have been learning about composting. It is interesting to me and my fellow classmates. We read this really cool story and that's why I am here to tell you about myself and about recycling. Recycling is a very good thing to do. It helps save the earth. If we did not have rot and compost we would be walking in trash all day. The End

Gallatin Solid Waste District Joins America Recycles Day

The Gallatin Solid Waste Management District is excited to be part of promoting recycling in Gallatin County, part of the District's renewed mission. In 2008, The Gallatin Solid Waste District started its own recycling program. On November 15th the District pledged to get involved with America Recycles Day (ARD). It is a nationally recognized day dedicated to encouraging Americans to recycle and buy recycled products. The District staff visited the Manhattan Elementary school and the Three Forks schools. The ARD goal, as well as the District's is to promote citizens pledging to increase recycling habits at home and work and to buy products made with recycled materials. The students attentively focused on the recycling displays and asked great questions. They talked about their own family's recycling habits. Most of the students agreed, recycling is the right thing to do for our planet, earth. Makayla Rowan and Lilly Jenkins, two fourth grade students from Three Forks Elementary school submitted stories to us about what they learned in Mrs. Kennedy's class on composting, part of the recycling loop; reduce, reuse, recycle. Composting can significantly reduce the amount of household waste we throw away and at the same time provide a nutrient-rich additive for soils. The District staff enjoyed their day with the students. They look forward to participating in more ventures to spread the word and promote a consciousness to recycle in their communities. We will be traveling to as many recycling events in the communities in the coming year. We hope to make next year's ARD even better. If you have an event you would like us to participate in contact Gallatin County's Recycle Coordinator Wayne Shelton at 582-2493 or leave message at 582-2494.

Compost is a big thing in the United States. Many people use compost bins to keep their old and rotten produce from getting worse. How does your food get rotten? Simply your food gets old and droops. Where do you put it? You put it in your compost bin so you can recycle and help prevent pollution. By Lilly Jenkins, Mrs. Kennedy's fourth grade Class, Three Forks, Montana



Bird House



Three Forks Elementary



Makayla & Lilly, Three Forks





VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

The Historic Preservation Board is holding the annual Antique Show February 5, 6, & 7, 2010. They need volunteers for 2-3 hour shifts to take money at the doors Thursday the 5th from 5PM—9PM, Saturday the 6th from 10AM—6PM, and Sunday the 7th from 10AM—3PM. Any help is much appreciated!

Contact Ada at x3130 for more information.



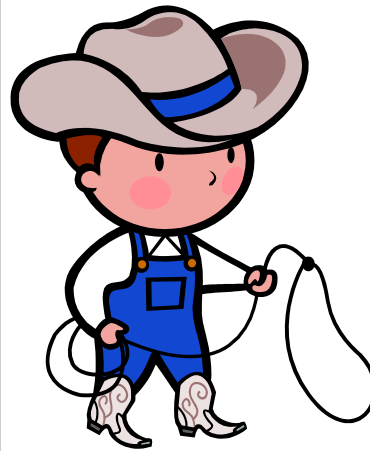
Children's Arts & Crafts Exhibit

Looking for a place to volunteer?

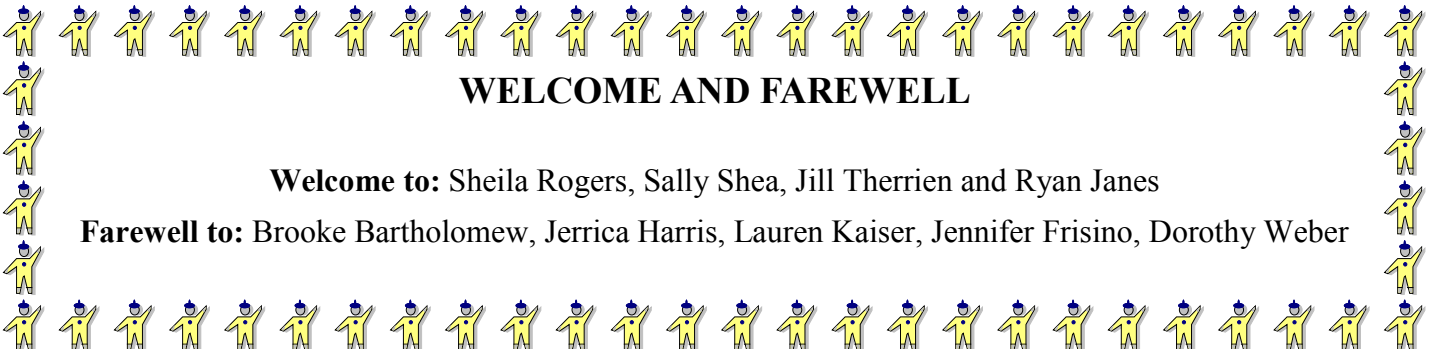
Give Sandy Schnurbusch a call... there are two openings to assist with set-up of all the wonderful children's art work that is submitted.

406-522-7016 home -

We need you...



Dates and times can be discussed when we talk.



WELCOME AND FAREWELL

Welcome to: Sheila Rogers, Sally Shea, Jill Therrien and Ryan Janes

Farewell to: Brooke Bartholomew, Jerrica Harris, Lauren Kaiser, Jennifer Frisino, Dorothy Weber